

Whereas, Collier Dill has devoted his love to his wife, Nancy, and their son, Joseph; and

Whereas, Collier Dill demonstrated a commitment to his country while serving in the Vietnam War; and

Whereas, Collier Dill is active with his church and community and is appreciated by all who know him.

Therefore, I join with the residents of the entire 18th Congressional District of Ohio in recognizing Collier Dill for his dedication to the United States, his community, family, and friends.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF ERNEST J. WAITS SR., A CINCINNATI CIVIL RIGHTS PIONEER

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 2004

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of a friend and hero, Ernest J. Waits Sr. of Cincinnati, who passed away on October 19, 2004.

Mr. Waits was a pioneering civil rights activist. He worked his whole lifetime for desegregation and to open doors for African Americans. Born in Flat Rock, Georgia in 1920, he moved to Cincinnati with his family in 1922 and grew up in Cincinnati's West End. Mr. Waits was known to say that he became a civil rights fighter one day when school textbooks at Sands School were in short supply, and he was told he could not share a textbook with a white student. He challenged injustice, as he put it, "I've been challenging things all the way through."

And he has. At Woodward High School in 1935, Mr. Waits called for integration of the swimming pool and the prom. In 1939, at age 19, he wanted to see comedian Eddie "Rochester" Anderson at Cincinnati's Schubert Theater. He insisted on being admitted, employing a strategy of civil disobedience later embraced by others in the civil rights movement. From that point on, Mr. Waits joined with others in Cincinnati who pushed for desegregation and civil rights.

In breaking race barriers, Mr. Waits held many Cincinnati "firsts." In 1947, he became the first African American Cincinnati radio disc jockey. For twelve years, he played jazz for a number of local stations, and was known for his creative programming in an era when there were few alternatives for African Americans. From 1958 to 1960, he was the first African American in Cincinnati to be an assistant sales manager for two auto dealerships. In 1960, he attended Northwestern University to study investment banking, and returned to Cincinnati to become the first African American New York Stock Exchange registered broker. He was the first African American to work for Cincinnati & Suburban Bell Telephone Company, and in the 1970s, he pioneered the concept of magnet schools to encourage inclusiveness and voluntary school desegregation.

He received many honors for his volunteer and community service, including a key to the city of Cincinnati and the "Mayor's Hometown Hero" award; a Cincinnati City Council resolution recognizing him as a leader in the ongoing campaign for racial equality; the Black

Male Coalition's 1993 Living Hero Award; the 1992 Broadcasting Hall of Fame Award; the Cincinnati Historical Society's Best in Broadcasting Hall of Fame Award; and an Amistad Foundation Award. He served in the U.S. Army as a mechanic based in Biloxi, Mississippi.

Mr. Waits' wife of 37 years, Betty, died in 1986, and a son, Eric Wilson Waits, died in March 2004. He is survived by a son, Ernest J. Waits, Jr.; three daughters, Kym Zimmers of North Avondale and Diane "Taffi" Weaver of Forest Park, and Shelley Moon of Los Angeles; nine grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

All of us in Cincinnati are grateful for the gift of Ernest Waits' life and his inspiration.

IN RECOGNITION OF BILL AND GLADYS JENNINGS

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 2004

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, on October 30, 2004, Bill and Gladys Jennings, of Calhoun County, Alabama, will celebrate their 50th anniversary.

Members of Saks Baptist Church in Saks, Alabama, for over 25 years, Mr. and Mrs. Jennings met through mutual friends and have always resided in the Calhoun community. They have one son, Jeff.

The Jennings love gardening and landscaping, and after long careers in the community have retired to enjoy their outdoor activities and spend time with their family and friends. Mr. Jennings is also an avid golfer.

Mr. Speaker, it's not often we have the opportunity to honor a distinguished couple like the Jennings. Thank you for the House's attention on this proud occasion.

TRIBUTE TO THE OAKLAND LIVINGSTON HUMAN SERVICE AGENCY

HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 2004

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the Oakland Livingston Human Service Agency as it celebrates its 40th anniversary as a community action agency. I commend their years of service and dedication to improving our community.

In 1964, the Economic Opportunity Act was enacted into law and provided stimulation and incentive for urban and rural communities to mobilize their resources to combat poverty through community action programs. That same year, Judge Carl F. Ingraham, Oakland County Executive Daniel T. Murphy, and James P. Dickerson created the nonprofit agency, the Oakland County Commission of Economic Opportunity (OCCEO) to serve Oakland County, Michigan. In 1965, the new agency received its first Federal grant, \$77,000 from the Office of Economic Opportunity. This money allowed the opening of OCCEO's central office in Pontiac, Michigan and the hiring of James M. McNeely as its first executive officer.

During its first 10 years, OCCEO served the Oakland County community in an effort to eliminate the causes and consequences of poverty. In 1975, OCCEO began serving Livingston County and the agency's name was changed to the Oakland Livingston Human Service Agency (OLHSA).

Today, OLHSA's mission is to enable the low income, elderly, and people with disabilities living in Oakland and Livingston Counties to become self-sufficient. Over the years, OLHSA has worked to reduce poverty by focusing all available resources toward helping low income individuals and families acquire the skills and knowledge they need to improve their personal quality of life. Today, the agency operates 74 programs, employs 575 people, and has an annual budget of more than \$30 million.

The work OLHSA has done for our community is truly remarkable. I had the opportunity to see their good work first-hand last year when I celebrated National Homeownership Month with families that OLHSA had helped. Through OLHSA's sponsored home-buying counseling classes, families participated in eight weeks of counseling and education designed to deal with budget and credit issues. This led them to their ability to qualify for an affordable mortgage and make their homeownership dreams come true. This is just one example of the many programs that OLHSA provides to our citizens.

Mr. Speaker, I commend the contributions that OLHSA has made over the past 40 years to our community and wish them continued success.

A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING JOHN LELAND HALEY

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 2004

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker:

Whereas, John Leland Haley has devoted himself to serving others through his membership in the Boy Scouts of America; and

Whereas, John Leland Haley has shared his time and talent with the community in which he resides; and

Whereas, John Leland Haley has demonstrated a commitment to meet challenges with enthusiasm, confidence and outstanding service; and

Whereas, John Leland Haley must be commended for the hard work and dedication he put forth in earning the Eagle Scout Award.

Therefore, I join with the residents of Crooksville, the entire 18th Congressional District of Ohio, John's family and friends in congratulating John Leland Haley as he receives the Eagle Scout Award.

A TRIBUTE TO MILTON MARSHALL

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 2004

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Milton Marshall in recognition of his service to New York City and his country.